

Message Text

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PAGE 01 STATE 195567
ORIGIN SCS-05

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMCONSUL KRAKOW PRIORITY

INFO AMEMBASSY WARSAW PRIORITY

UNCLAS STATE 195567

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: CASC (PAPA, DOMINIC A.)

SUBJECT: W/W: DOMINIC A. PAPA

1. FOLLOWING LETTER TO SECSTATE RECEIVED FROM CONG. MOFFETT. POST REQUESTED CABLE IMMEDIATE DRAFT REPLY/ FULL REPORT TO DEPARTMENT. QUOTE: DEAR MR. SECRETARY: I AM GREATLY DISTURBED BY A RECENT INCIDENT WHICH INVOLVED MY CONSTITUENT, MR. DOMINIC A. PAPA, OF 39 BERKSHIRE DRIVE, FARMINGTON, CONNECTICUT, 06032.

ON MAY 27, 1977, MR. PAPA RENTED A CAR IN VIENNA, AUSTRIA, PICKED UP THE KEYS AND REGISTRATION FROM THE DESK, AND, ON MAY 28, DROVE ACROSS THE BORDER INTO CZECHOSLOVAKIA. WHEN HE ATTEMPTED TO CROSS INTO POLAND, HOWEVER, HE WAS STOPPED BECAUSE HIS CAR REGISTRATION DID NOT MATCH THE AUTOMOBILE MARKERS.

TO OBTAIN ASSISTANCE, MR. PAPA AND HIS WIFE WENT TO THE AMERICAN EMBASSY IN KRAKOW WHERE, I REGRET TO SAY, THEY UNCLASSIFIED

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RECEIVED EXCEPTIONALLY RUDE TREATMENT. AFTER BEING TOLD THAT THE EMBASSY WAS ABOUT TO CLOSE FOR LUNCH, THEY WERE THEN INFORMED BY THE VICE CONSELOR THAT THERE WAS NOTHING HE COULD DO--THAT IT WAS BETWEEN MR. PAPA AND THE CAR RENTAL COMPANY. HIS REQUEST FOR A LETTER FROM THE EMBASSY TO HELP THEM GAIN ACCESS THROUGH THE BORDER WAS REFUSED.

HIS REQUEST FOR THE EMBASSY TO PLACE A PHONE CALL TO VIENNA TO STRAIGHTEN OUT THE CONFUSION WAS ALSO DENIED. EVEN MORE FRUSTRATING WAS THE FACT THAT, THROUGHOUT THIS ORDEAL, THE VICE COUNSELOR REFUSED TO IDENTIFY HIMSELF.

ALTHOUGH MR. PAPA HAD BROUGHT HIS POLISH RELATIVES WITH HIM TO THE EMBASSY TO IMPRESS THEM, HE LEFT FEELING SHAMED AND EMBARRASSED. IN THE END, IT WAS A POLISH WOMAN WORKING AT THE EMBASSY WHO SENT HIM TO A TRAVEL AGENCY, WHERE HE WAS FORCED TO BUY TRAVEL INSURANCE WHICH EVENTUALLY ENABLED HIM TO CROSS THE BORDER.

IN LIGHT OF THESE CIRCUMSTANCES, I WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR LOOKING INTO THE MATTER, AND RESPECTIFULLY REQUEST THAT MR. PAPA BE ISSUED AN OFFICIAL APOLOGY. THANK YOU FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE. SINCERELY, TOBY MOFFETT. VANCE

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Message Attributes

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Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 17-Aug-1977 12:00:00 am
Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
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TAGS: CASC, (PAPA, DOMINIC A)
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